

DES MOINES REGISTER/CNN/MEDIACOM IOWA POLL

SELZER & COMPANY

Study #2182

December 10-13, 2018

450 Registered Republicans

Margin of error: ±4.6 percentage points

503 registered Republican contacts

weighted by age and congressional district

455 Democratic likely caucusgoers

Margin of error: ±4.6 percentage points

1,838 active registered voter contacts

weighted by age and congressional district

Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Are you a resident of the state of Iowa and registered to vote here?

100	Yes	Continue
	No	Terminate and do not collect demographics.
	Not sure	

How likely is it you will attend one of the caucuses scheduled for February of 2020 when presidential candidates will be on the agenda—will you definitely attend, probably attend, or probably not attend? **(If definitely or probably attend, ask:)** Will you attend the Democratic or the Republican caucus?

Dem	Reg		
CGs	Reps		
57	-	Definitely attend Democratic caucus	Define as likely Democratic caucusgoers and continue.
43	-	Probably attend Democratic caucus	
-	23	Definitely attend Republican caucus	If Registered Republican, define as Republican and skip to favorability on Republican figures.
-	24	Probably attend Republican caucus	
-	47	Probably not attend a caucus	If not registered Republican, collect age, sex, party registration and congressional district from sample, then terminate.
-	3	Don't know which caucus will attend	
-	3	Not sure	

Have you attended caucuses in the past or will this be your first caucus? **(If attended in past, ask:)** Was that a Republican caucus, a Democratic caucus, or both?

Dem	
CGs	
11	Attended Republican caucus in the past
60	Attended Democratic caucus in the past
7	Attended both
21	First caucus
-	Not sure

Now, I'm going to mention some prominent Democrats, including potential candidates for the Democratic nomination for president. For each, please tell me if your feelings are very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable. If you don't know enough about the person to answer, just say so. (Record "don't know" as "not sure." Rotate list.)

Among likely Democratic caucusgoers	Net Fav	Net Unf	Very Favorable	Mostly Favorable	Mostly Unfavorable	Very Unfavorable	Not Sure
Joe Biden, former vice president of the United States	82	15	47	35	11	4	4
Michael Bloomberg, former mayor of New York City	40	31	8	32	20	11	29
Cory Booker, U.S. senator from New Jersey	49	12	18	31	6	6	39
Sherrod Brown, U.S. senator from Ohio	23	8	6	17	5	3	69
Steve Bullock, governor of Montana	11	8	2	9	5	3	82
Julián Castro, former U.S. secretary of Housing and Urban Development	27	10	6	21	7	3	63
Hillary Clinton, the Democratic nominee in 2016	47	49	17	29	26	22	4
John Delaney, U.S. congressman from Maryland	25	11	6	19	7	4	64
Eric Garcetti, mayor of Los Angeles	13	11	3	11	7	4	75
Kirsten Gillibrand, U.S. senator from New York	35	10	7	28	5	4	55
Kamala Harris, U.S. senator from California	49	10	19	29	6	4	41
John Hickenlooper, governor of Colorado	24	9	6	18	6	3	67
Eric Holder, former U.S. attorney general	42	16	10	32	10	6	42
Jay Inslee, governor of the state of Washington	11	8	3	8	5	2	82
Amy Klobuchar, U.S. senator from Minnesota	38	8	16	22	5	3	54
Beto O'Rourke, U.S. congressman from Texas	53	11	28	25	7	4	36
Bernie Sanders, U.S. senator from Vermont	74	22	43	31	12	10	4
Tom Steyer, hedge fund manager and activist	19	19	5	15	14	6	61
Eric Swalwell, U.S. congressman from California	20	10	5	14	4	5	70
Elizabeth Warren, U.S. senator from Massachusetts	64	20	30	35	13	7	16
Andrew Yang, businessman	5	12	1	4	6	6	83

Which one of the following Democrats would be your first choice for president? **(Read list and rotate.)**
 And who would your second choice be? **(If None of these or Not sure in first choice question, record “No first choice” in second choice question and do not ask. Read list only if necessary.)**

Among likely Democratic caucusgoers	First Choice	Second Choice
Joe Biden	32	18
Michael Bloomberg	3	3
Cory Booker	4	7
Sherrod Brown	1	2
Steve Bullock	-	-
Julián Castro	1	-
John Delaney	1	-
Eric Garcetti	-	-
Kirsten Gillibrand	-	1
Kamala Harris	5	6
John Hickenlooper	1	1
Eric Holder	-	1
Jay Inslee	-	1
Amy Klobuchar	3	2
Beto O’Rourke	11	12
Bernie Sanders	19	14
Tom Steyer	-	1
Eric Swalwell	-	1
Elizabeth Warren	8	10
Andrew Yang	-	1
None of these (VOL)	4	3
Not sure	6	6
No first choice	n/a	10

(Ask only for each candidate NOT selected as first or second choice in previous question.) I'm going to mention the Democrats who are not your first or second choice. For each, please tell me if you think you could **ever** support the person for president in the future or would **never** support the person for president. **(Read appropriate names. Use same rotation as previous question. If selected as first or second choice, code AC=4 and do not ask.)**

Among likely Democratic caucusgoers	Ever	Never	Not sure	1 st or 2 nd choice in previous question
Joe Biden	40	8	3	50
Michael Bloomberg	48	24	22	6
Cory Booker	51	14	24	11
Sherrod Brown	35	21	42	3
Steve Bullock	30	21	48	-
Julián Castro	40	18	41	1
John Delaney	39	18	42	1
Eric Garcetti	33	19	47	-
Kirsten Gillibrand	48	16	35	1
Kamala Harris	48	13	28	11
John Hickenlooper	35	20	43	2
Eric Holder	50	19	30	1
Jay Inslee	32	19	49	1
Amy Klobuchar	44	15	36	5
Beto O'Rourke	42	13	21	23
Bernie Sanders	49	15	3	33
Tom Steyer	36	21	42	1
Eric Swalwell	36	18	45	1
Elizabeth Warren	54	17	11	18
Andrew Yang	28	22	48	1

I'm going to mention some other names people might think of as potential candidates for president. For each, please tell me if you think they would add to or detract from the race for president. **(Rotate list.)**

Among likely Democratic caucusgoers	Add	Detract	Not Sure
Hillary Clinton	25	72	3
Oprah Winfrey, businesswoman and television personality	40	55	4
Michelle Obama, former first lady	76	22	2
Howard Schultz, the former CEO of Starbucks	17	55	28

Do you think the right person to defeat Donald Trump will be more of a political newcomer, as he was, or more of a seasoned political hand?

**Dem
CGs**

- 36 Newcomer
- 49 Seasoned hand
- 15 Not sure

Which is more important to you personally: **(Read items. Rotate.)**

Dem
CGs

- 54 That the winner of the Iowa Democratic caucus be a candidate for president with a strong chance of beating Donald Trump
- 40 That the winner of the Iowa Democratic caucus be a candidate for president who shares your positions on major issues
- 6 Not sure

For each of the following, please tell me if this is an essential trait you'd like to see in an American president—just answer yes or no. **(Multiple responses accepted, so total may exceed 100%.)**

Dem
CGs

- 90 Someone who will restore relationships with longtime U.S. allies
- 90 A person with a strong moral compass
- 87 A person with deep knowledge of policy and politics
- 89 Someone who will unite the country
- 80 Someone who respects decorum
- 93 A person who will tell the truth, even if I don't agree
- 81 Someone who represents the future of the Democratic Party
- None of these (VOL)
- 1 Not sure

If a Republican candidate chose to challenge Donald Trump in the caucuses, do you think you would consider participating in that party's caucus, or would you stay with the Democrats?

Dem
CGs

- 28 Consider participating with Republicans
- 64 Stay with the Democrats
- 7 Not sure

In terms of selecting the Democratic nominee to run for president in the year 2020, which do you think would be better for the Democratic Party? **(Read options. Rotate.)**

Dem
CGs

- 52 For there to be a number of strong candidates competing for the nomination over the next year
- 41 For one strong candidate to emerge early on as the clear front-runner for the nomination
- 7 Not sure

(Democratic caucusgoers: Skip to demographics.)

[Ask next section only of registered Republicans.]

Now, I'm going to mention some Republicans. For each, please tell me if your feelings are very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable. If you don't know enough about the person to answer, just say so. (Record "don't know" as "not sure." Rotate list.)

Among registered Republicans	Net Fav	Net Unf	Very Favorable	Mostly Favorable	Mostly Unfavorable	Very Unfavorable	Not Sure
George W. Bush, former U.S. president	87	9	43	44	6	3	5
Bob Corker, U.S. senator from Tennessee	15	13	3	12	6	7	72
Ted Cruz, U.S. senator from Texas	68	20	25	43	16	5	12
Jeff Flake, U.S. senator from Arizona	16	27	4	13	10	17	57
Nikki Haley, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations	52	6	29	23	3	3	42
John Kasich, governor of Ohio	31	26	9	22	16	10	43
Steve King, U.S. congressman from Iowa	58	22	23	35	10	11	20
Mitt Romney, U.S. senator-elect from Utah	65	21	16	49	14	7	14
Kim Reynolds, governor of Iowa	81	12	42	39	8	4	7
Marco Rubio, U.S. senator from Florida	63	18	21	42	12	6	20
Ben Sasse, U.S. senator from Nebraska	24	11	8	16	6	5	65
Donald Trump, president of the United States	77	18	49	28	7	11	5
Matthew Whitaker, acting U.S. attorney general	37	8	17	21	5	3	55
Joni Ernst, U.S. senator from Iowa*	82	6	43	40	4	2	12
Chuck Grassley, U.S. senator from Iowa*	87	7	54	33	4	3	6

*These two questions started in the field Tuesday, so n=344. MoE: ±5.3 percentage points.

In 2020, there will be normal Republican Party caucuses. There may or may not be candidates challenging Donald Trump for the Republican nomination. Do you think the Republican Party of Iowa should welcome challengers to Iowa to compete at the caucuses or discourage them from competing in Iowa?

**Reg
Reps**

- 63 Should welcome challengers
- 26 Should discourage challengers
- 11 Not sure

Do you approve or disapprove of the job Donald Trump is doing as president?

**Reg
Reps**

- 81 Approve
- 14 Disapprove
- 4 Not sure

If the general election vote for president of the United States were held today with Donald Trump as the Republican candidate, would you definitely vote to re-elect President Trump, consider someone else, or definitely vote to elect someone else, or would you not vote?

**Reg
Reps**

- 67 Definitely vote to re-elect Trump
- 19 Consider someone else
- 10 Definitely vote to elect someone else
- 1 Would not vote
- 3 Not sure

For each of the following Republicans, please tell me if you think you could ever support the person for president **in the future** or would never support the person for president. **(Read list. Rotate.)**

Among registered Republicans	Ever	Never	Not sure
Bob Corker	11	40	49
Jeff Flake	14	47	39
Nikki Haley	46	21	33
John Kasich	31	39	30
Mitt Romney	53	37	10
Marco Rubio	59	30	11
Ben Sasse	21	31	48

Within the Republican party, there are those who agree and those who disagree with President Trump on some issues. For each of the following plans or actions the president has taken, please tell me if you think it was a good move or a mistake. **(Rotate list.)**

Among registered Republicans	Good Move	Mistake	Not Sure
Building a wall on the southern border of the U.S.	74	21	5
Imposing tariffs on imports from selected countries	69	22	9
Pulling out of the Paris agreement on climate change	57	26	17
Reducing the number of people allowed to immigrate legally to the U.S.	71	19	9
Signing the Tax Cuts and Jobs act into law	78	9	13
Naming Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court	81	7	12
Sending U.S. military troops to the southern border to respond to the caravan of immigrants making its way across Mexico	83	12	5
Withdrawning from the Trans Pacific Partnership	55	19	26
Moving the U.S. Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem	70	9	21
Firing Jeff Sessions as attorney general	54	21	25
Holding campaign-style rallies on a regular basis during his time in office	70	19	11
Posting potentially inflammatory messages on Twitter on a regular basis	19	72	9
Openly questioning the findings of U.S. government scientists or intelligence agencies	59	25	16

For each of the following, please tell me if this is an essential trait you'd like to see in an American president—just answer yes or no. **(Mark all that apply. Rotate list. Multiple responses accepted, so total may exceed 100%.)**

**Reg
Reps**

- 69 Christian conservative
- 83 Believer in small government
- 85 A person with experience cutting budgets
- 87 Someone who will not raise the national debt
- 83 Someone who will restore relationships with longtime U.S. allies
- 90 A person with a strong moral compass
- 72 A person with deep knowledge of policy and politics
- 87 Someone who will unite the country
- 64 Someone who respects decorum
- 90 A person who will tell the truth, even if I don't agree
- 80 Someone who represents the future of the Republican Party
- None of these (VOL)
- 1 Not sure

In the recent midterm elections, the Democrats won a majority of the seats in the House of Representatives, which gives them the power to set the legislative agenda. Who do you think is more to blame for Republican losses in last month's elections? **(Rotate items.)**

	Reg Reps	

- 54 The Republicans in Congress
- 24 President Trump
- 22 Not sure

Donald Trump was not a career politician before becoming president. Do you think that has done more to help or more to hurt his effectiveness as president?

	Reg Reps	

- 65 More to help
- 22 More to hurt
- 12 Not sure

Do you believe Donald Trump cares more about: **(Rotate options.)**

Reg Reps	People like			Not sure
	People like you	Donald Trump		
Dec-18	55	26	19	

Would you say you feel more allegiance to the [Republican Party] or [President Trump]? (**Rotate options.**)

	Reg Reps	
43	Republican Party	
37	President Trump	
20	Not sure	

ABOUT THE POLL

The Iowa Poll, conducted December 10-13, 2018, for *The Des Moines Register*, CNN and Mediacom by Selzer & Co. of Des Moines, is based on telephone interviews with 455 registered voters in Iowa who say they will definitely or probably participate in the 2020 Democratic caucuses and 450 registered Republicans.

Interviewers with Quantel Research contacted 1,838 randomly selected active voters from the Iowa secretary of state's voter registration list by telephone. The sample was supplemented with additional phone number lookups. Interviews were administered in English. Responses for all contacts were adjusted by age and congressional district to reflect their proportions among active voters in the list. For the registered Republican sample, responses for the 503 registered Republican contacts were adjusted by age and congressional district to reflect their proportions among active registered Republicans in the voter registration list.

Questions based on the sample of 455 voters likely to attend the 2020 Iowa Democratic caucuses have a maximum margin of error of plus or minus 4.6 percentage points, as does the sample of 450 registered Republicans. This means that if this survey were repeated using the same questions and the same methodology, 19 times out of 20, the findings would not vary from the true population value by more than plus or minus 4.6 percentage points. Results based on smaller samples of respondents—such as by gender or age—have a larger margin of error.

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